



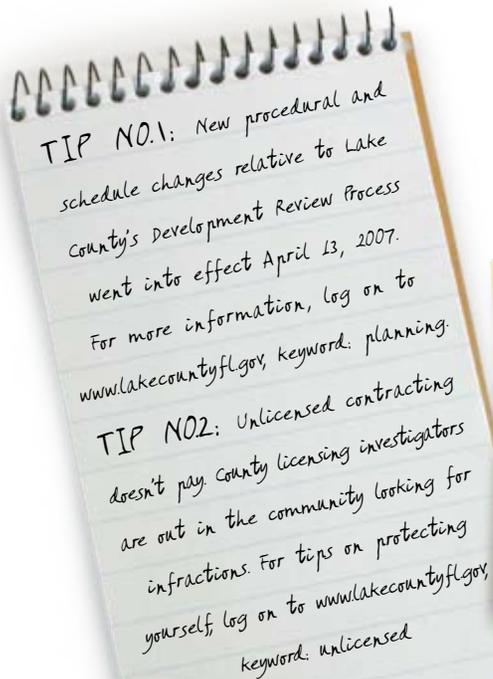
LAKE COUNTY

DEPARTMENT OF
GROWTH MANAGEMENT

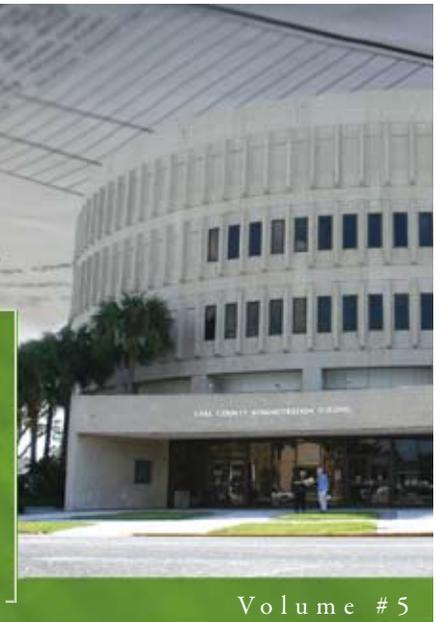
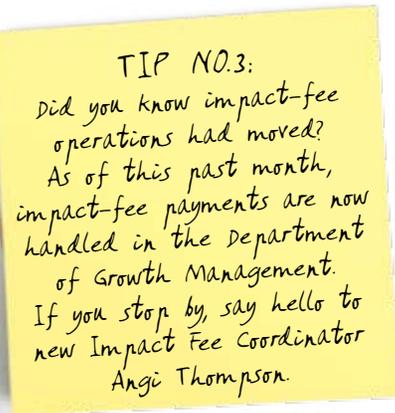
315 W. Main St., Fifth floor, Tavares, Florida 32778 • (352) 343-9642 • www.lakecountyfl.gov

ON THE MOVE TO NEW DIGS

In case you had not heard, the Code Enforcement Division, moved from the fifth floor of the Lake County Administration Building, 315 W. Main St., into one of the facilities located at 908 N. Sinclair Ave. The new phone number for Code Enforcement is (352) 343-9064.



Tips OF THE QUARTER



Volume #5

TO ALL LAKE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF GROWTH MANAGEMENT CUSTOMERS:

Welcome to this new issue of the Department of Growth Management quarterly newsletter, The Fifth GM Connection.

Our goal with this publication is to provide you with the best possible information about customer-service improvements and tips. While this newsletter updates you on the latest changes to our services, we are committed to making the overall Lake County Government experience for you convenient and pleasant.

Our commitment to you is to strive for constant improvement. If we fail to meet that goal, please tell us so that we may look at the operation and better serve your needs. Please take a few moments to fill out a survey card available in the fifth floor lobby, and give us your suggestions on how we can better help you.

Cordially,

Carol Stricklin, AICP
Director of Growth Management



DIVISIONS SPORT A NEW LOOK

Some new carpet, countertops and waiting-room chairs are not the only recent changes on the fifth floor.

At the start of this year, several divisions of Growth Management underwent name changes to better reflect the services they provide to customers. The five divisions of Growth Management and a short synopsis of their services are:

- Building Services (352-343-9653) — Issues building, fire, electrical, mechanical, plumbing, gas and irrigation permits. Also conducts plan reviews and inspections; licenses contractors; and investigates code violations and unlicensed contractors.
- Code Enforcement Services (352-343-9639) — Enforces the land development regulations and county codes governing the use of property in Lake County. Also ensures protection of property rights and value, as well as citizen health and safety.
- Zoning (352-343-9738) — Maintains and enforces County zoning regulations and issues zoning clearances and tree-removal permits. Also provides lot of record determinations, unity of titles and lot-line deviations; and processes variance and lot-split requests.
- Planning & Community Design Division (352-343-9739 or 352-343-9632) — Reviews all commercial, industrial, public facility and residential site development within unincorporated Lake County for compliance and consistency with the Lake County Land Development Regulations and Comprehensive Plan.
- Geographic Information Systems (GIS) (352-343-9775) — Creates, collects and maintains all digital geographic information for Lake County; also responsible for maps, analysis and databases of the County's geographic data.

In addition, a relatively new program in the Department of Growth Management is Public Lands Management. The creation of the program is a direct result of Lake County voters approving a public land referendum on Nov. 2, 2004. The referendum approved up to a one third millage for the County to issue \$36 million in bonds for the acquisition and improvement of land to protect drinking water, improve water quality of rivers and lakes, protect open space and provide passive recreational areas.

AN 'ON-THE-GO' INSPECTION

The Building Services Division, recently unveiled a new technology that aims to streamline overall efficiency and customer service.

Armed with a Black Berry phones with the Mobile INSPECTOR software, building inspectors can now receive real-time information in the field, including viewing updated inspection schedules, researching inspection and contractor histories, creating new inspections and instantly submitting completed inspections.

“This technology provides our inspectors with an easy to use, inexpensive device that allows them to complete their daily

tasks in one place without carrying a cumbersome laptop to construction sites,” said Dale Greiner, Director of Building Services.

Contractors can sign up for the Mobile CONTRACTOR system to access specific building information from a mobile phone or computer with Internet access. In particular, the system allows contractors to schedule and cancel inspections; review inspection history and permit information; and receive instant inspection information. For more information about either service provided by MobileHWY, log on to www.lakecountyfl.gov, keyword: building.

BACK TO THE CLASSROOM FOR ZONING

The Zoning Division is currently offering classes about the County's land-development regulations to realtors to help them better assist their clients.

“All the issues involved with building on property can be very confusing at times,” said Terrie Diesbourg, Zoning Division Director. “This is a valuable opportunity for us to explain the process and provide you with a better understanding.”

General topics of the class include the variance process, lot splits, lot of record determinations, wetlands and flood facts. Other tutorials include using the Web to view County maps courtesy of the Geographic Information Systems Division (GIS) and ordinances posted to municode.com.

Depending on the size of the group, the average class length is about 1 1/2 hours. For more information or to schedule a class, call Terrie Diesbourg at (352) 343-9422 or e-mail tdiesbourg@lakecountyfl.gov.